

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Previously Presented): An operation microscope includes an illuminating device which is arranged behind a front lens and illuminates an object plane with a light patch and in whose beam path a diaphragm is arranged which partially covers said beam path, said diaphragm defining at least one substantially rectangular slit disposed in said beam path, said beam path having an optical axis, said diaphragm being rotatable about an axis parallel to the optical axis of the illuminating beam path whereby said at least one slit is rotatable from a first orientation within said beam path to a second orientation within said beam path, wherein the light patch is movable with a translatory movement component in the object plane.
2. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 1, wherein the diaphragm is designed for a movement with a translatory component in the beam path perpendicular to the optical axis of the illuminating beam path.
3. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 1, wherein the illuminating device is movable relative to the diaphragm.
4. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 1, wherein the light patch is movable by pivoting of a deflection element for the illuminating light.
5. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 1, wherein the diaphragm is arranged in a diaphragm support which is movable perpendicular to the optical axis of the illuminating beam path.
6. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 1, wherein the diaphragm is movable in two directions perpendicular to one another and linearly perpendicular to the optical axis of the illuminating beam path.
7. (Canceled)
8. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 1, wherein the diaphragm is arranged in a diaphragm support which is rotatably mounted eccentrically with respect to the optical axis of the illuminating beam path.
9. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 5, wherein more than one diaphragm is provided on the diaphragm support.
10. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 5, wherein the diaphragm or at least one diaphragm is slit-shaped.
11. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 1, wherein the diaphragm or at least one diaphragm is circular.

12. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 1, wherein the diaphragm has a modifiable slit width size or a modifiable circle diameter size can be modified.

13. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 1, wherein the diaphragm is arranged on a diaphragm support which is partially transmitting at least in subareas.

14. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 1, wherein the diaphragm and/or the deflection element can be adjusted by motor.

15. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 2, wherein the illuminating device is movable relative to the diaphragm.

16. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 2, wherein the light patch is movable by pivoting of a deflection element for the illuminating light.

17. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 3, wherein the light patch is movable by pivoting of a deflection element for the illuminating light.

18. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 2, wherein the diaphragm is arranged in a diaphragm support which is movable perpendicular to the optical axis of the illuminating beam path.

19. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 3, wherein the diaphragm is arranged in a diaphragm support which is movable perpendicular to the optical axis of the illuminating beam path.

20. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 4, wherein the diaphragm is arranged in a diaphragm support which is movable perpendicular to the optical axis of the illuminating beam path.

21. (New): An operation microscope includes an illuminating device which is arranged behind a front lens and illuminates an object plane with a light patch and in whose beam path a diaphragm is arranged which partially covers said beam path, said diaphragm defining at least one substantially rectangular slit disposed in said beam path, said beam path having an optical axis, said diaphragm being arranged in a diaphragm support which is movable perpendicular to the optical axis of the illuminating beam path, wherein the light patch is movable with a translatory movement component in the object plane.